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DENTAL COUNCIL OF INDIA

ADDENDUM

New Delhi, the 2nd September, 2009

In continuation to Dental Council of India's Notification dated 31st July, 2009 published in issue No. 145 of Gazette of India, Part III, Section 4, Extraordinary on 13th August, 2009.

"Annexure-A

EXTRACTS OF THE JUDGMENT OF HON. SUPREME COURT DATED 8.5.2009 IN CIVIL PETITION NO 887 OF 2009 IN THE MATTER OF UNIVERSITY OF KERALA VS. COUNCIL, PRINCIPALS COLLEGES, KERALA AND OTHERS.

- Every institution should engage or seek the assistance of professional counsellors at the time of admissions to counsel 'freshers' in order to prepare them for the life ahead, particularly for adjusting to the life in hostels.
- On the arrival of senior students after the first week or after the second week as the case may be, further orientation programmes must be scheduled as follows (i) joint sensitization programme and counselling of both 'freshers' and seniors by a professional counsellor; (ii) joint orientation programme of 'freshers' and seniors to be addressed by the Principal/Head of the institution, and the anti-ragging committee; (iii) organisation on a large scale of cultural, sports and other activities to provide a platform for the 'freshers' and seniors to interact in the presence of faculty members; (iv) in the hostel, the warden should address all students; may request two junior colleagues from the college faculty to assist the warden by becoming resident tutors for a temporary duration;
- Every institution must have an Anti-Ragging Committee and an Anti-Ragging Squad. It is essential to have a diverse mix of membership in terms of levels as well as gender in both the Anti-Ragging Squad as well as the Anti-Ragging Committee. The Anti-Ragging Committee at the level of the institution should consist of the representatives of civil and police administration, local media, Non Government Organizations involved in youth activities, representatives of faculty members, representatives of parents, representatives of students belonging to the 'freshers' category as well as seniors, non-teaching staff and should be headed by the Head of the Institution.

- The Anti Ragging Squad, in contrast, should be a body with vigil, oversight and patrolling functions and should appropriately be a smaller body which should be nominated by the Head of the institution with such representation as considered necessary to keep it mobile, alert and active at all times. The Squad may be called upon to make surprise raids on hostels and other hot spots and should be empowered to inspect places of potential ragging. The Squad should work under the overall guidance of the Anti-Ragging Committee. The Squad should not have any outside representation and should only consist of members belonging to the various sections of the campus community.
- All matters of discipline within teaching institutions, must be resolved within the campus – except those impinging on law and order or breach of peace or public tranquility, all of which should be dealt with under the penal laws of the land.
- At the level of the University, there should be a monitoring Cell on Ragging, which should coordinate with the affiliated colleges and institutions under its domain. The Cell should call for reports from the Heads of institutions in regard to the activities of the Anti-Ragging Committees, Anti-Ragging Squads, Mentoring Cells at the level of the institution, the compliance with instructions on conducting orientation programmes, counselling sessions, the incidents of ragging, the problems faced by wardens or other officials. It should also keep itself abreast of the decisions of the District level Anti-Ragging Committee. This Monitoring Cell should also review the efforts made by institutions to publicize anti-ragging measures, soliciting of undertaking from parents and students each year to abstain from ragging activities or willingness to be penalized for violations; and should function as the prime mover for initiating action on the part of the appropriate authorities of the university for amending the Statutes or Ordinances or Bye-laws to facilitate the implementation of anti-ragging measures at the level of the institution.
- In the light of the increasing number of private commercially managed lodges or hostels outside campuses, such hostels and management must be registered with the local police authorities and permission to start such hostels or register them must necessarily be recommended by the Heads of educational institutions. It should be mandatory for both local police, local administration as well the institutional authorities to ensure vigil on incidents that may come with in the definition of ragging. Managements of such private hostels should be responsible for non-reporting of cases of ragging in such premises. Local authorities as well as the institutional authorities should be responsible for action in the event of ragging in such premises, just as they would be for incidents within campuses.
- Besides registering private hostels as stated above, the towns or cities where educational institutions are located should be apportioned as sectors among faculty members, so that they could maintain vigil and report any incidents of ragging outside campuses and en route while 'freshers' commute.
- Wardens must be accessible at all hours and therefore it is important that they be available on telephone and other modes of communication. Wardens must be issued mobile phones by the institutions and the details of their telephone number must be widely publicised. Similarly, the telephone numbers of the other important functionaries – Heads of institutions, faculty members, members of the anti-ragging committees, district and sub-divisional authorities and state authorities where relevant, should also be widely disseminated for the needy to get in touch or seek help in emergencies.
- The brochures or booklet/leaflet distributed to each student at the beginning of each academic session for obtaining undertaking not to indulge or abet ragging, shall contain the blueprint of prevention and methods of redress.
- The educational institutions shall ensure that each hostel should have a full time warden who resides within the hostel, or at the very least, in the close vicinity thereof.
- Institutions should provide necessary incentives for the post of full time warden, so as to attract suitable candidates.

- The database shall be created out of affidavits affirmed by each student and his/her parents/guardians, which affidavits shall be stored electronically, and shall contain the details of each student. The data base shall also function as a record of ragging complaints received.
- Penal consequences for the heads of the institutions/ administrations of the institutions who do not take timely steps in the prevention of ragging and punishing those who rag. In addition to penal consequences, departmental enquiries be initiated against such head of the institutions/ member of the administration/ faculty members / non teaching staff who display an apathetic or insensitive attitude towards complaints of ragging.
- Not only the students, but also the faculty who must be sensitized towards the ills of ragging, and the prevention thereof. Non teaching staff, which includes administrative staff, contract employees, security staff etc., have to be regularly sensitized towards the evils and consequences of ragging.
- The Principal or Head of the Institution/Department shall obtain an undertaking from every employee of the institution including teaching and non-teaching members of staff, contract labour employed in the premises either for running canteen or as watch and ward staff or for cleaning or maintenance of the buildings/lawns etc. that he/she would report promptly any case of ragging which comes to his/her notice. A provision shall be made in the service rules for issuing certificates of appreciation to such members of the staff who report ragging which will form part of their service record.
- It is seen, that college canteens and hostel messes are also places where ragging often takes place. The employers/employees of the canteens/mess shall be given necessary instructions to keep strict vigil and to report the incidents of ragging to the college authorities if any.
- Each batch of freshers should be divided into small groups and each such group shall be assigned to a member of the staff. Such staff member should interact individually with, each member of the group on a daily basis for ascertaining the problems/difficulties if any faced by the fresher in the institution and extending necessary help.
- In the case of freshers admitted to a hostel it shall be the responsibility of the teacher in charge of the group to coordinate with the warden of the hostel and to make surprise visits to the rooms in the hostel where the members of the group are lodged.
- Freshers shall be lodged in a separate hostel block, wherever possible, and where such facilities are not available, the college/institution shall ensure that seniors access to freshers accommodation is strictly monitored by wardens, security guards and college staff.
- A ragging takes place mostly in the hostels after the classes are over in the college. A round the clock vigil against ragging in the hostel premises shall be provided.

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Dr. P. N. AWASTHI, Secy.

[ADVT III/4/98/09-Exty.]

